GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4578
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2006
CONSTRUCTION OF BHASHA DAM
Deora Shri Milind Murli

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had lodged a protest with Government of Pakistan against proposed construction of Bhasha Dam in Gilgit on Indus River in Northern area as it would inundate large parts of land in J & K;

(b) if so, the response of Government of Pakistan in this regard;

(c) the time by which the dam would be constructed; and

(d) the action the Government proposes to take for the rehabilitation of the affected persons?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

(a) Government of India conveyed through diplomatic channels to the Government of Pakistan, its protest against the proposed construction of Bhasha Dam in territory that is part of the State of Jammu & Kashmir, which is an integral part of India by virtue of its accession to it in 1947. The reservoir of this dam, according to media reports, will inundate large parts of land which falls in the northern part of the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) Pakistan rejected the demarche made by India in this regard.

(c) According to media reports, Pakistan proposes to complete the construction of the Bhasha Dam by 2016.

(d) Government is not aware of the details of rehabilitation plan of the Government of Pakistan for the construction of the Bhasha Dam. Measures to be taken by India are dependent on further Indo-Pakistan interaction.